

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 03611 271026 Z

10

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

STR-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-20 CIEP-02 OMB-01 RSR-01

INRE-00 /119 W

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P 270935 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2631

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PLEASE PASS STR

E. O. 11652 : N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJ: JAPANESE SOFTWOOD LOG IMPORTS

REF TOKYO 3448

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. MARCH 27 MORNING ASAHI ARTICLE QUOTED SHOICHI FUKUDA, DIRECTOR OF THE FORESTRY AGENCY AS SAYING THAT HE WILL SHORTLY ASK JAPANESE LOG IMPORTERS TO IMPOSE VOLUNTARY CURBS ON THEIR PURCHASES FROM THE U. S. IN 1973 TO HOLD THEM UNDER THE 1972 LEVEL OF 11,000,000 CUBIC METERS. THE PROPOSED SELF- RESTRICTION REQUIRES THE CONCURRENCE OF THE FAIR TRADE COMMISSION. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. COMMENT: YOSHIDA, DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY PRODUCTS DIVISION, FORESTRY AGENCY, MAF, CONFIRMED THAT THE ARTICLE REFLECTS PRESENT FORESTRY AGENCY THINKING AND THAT THEY WILL TRY TO HOLD IMPORTS UNDER 1972 LEVEL TO " SOFTEN U. S. ATTITUDE". ASAHI OBTAINED INFORMATION FROM YOSHIDA RATHER THAN FUKUDA. THIS OCCASIONED SOME EMBARRASSMENT TO FORESTRY AGENCY WHICH HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 03611 271026 Z

NOT YET CONSULTED WITH MITI OR FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. THE FORESTRY AGENCY IS NOT PRESENTLY CONSIDERING RESORTING TO LEGAL MEASURES SUCH AS EXPORT- IMPORT TRADING LAW OR IMPORT CONTROL ORDER. INSTEAD, ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE WILL BE EXTENDED. NO SPECIFIC TIME HAS BEEN SET FOR THIS. SINCE THIS WILL BE IN THE FORM OF A CARTEL FAIR TRADE COMMISSION APPROVAL NECESSARY, OUTH OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS. INSTEAD, NUMEROUS AIRCRAFT WERE FLYING DIRECT FROM DHAHRAN OVER RUB AL- KHALI PASSING CLOSE TO PROHIBITED AREAS AT KHAMIS MUSHAYT OR SHURURAH EN ROUTE TO HORN OF AFRICA OR ADEN. WORDING IN NOTAM CONCERNING LIABILITY TO BE FIRED ON WITHOUT WARNING ADOPTED FROM SAUDI ARABIA RAC 5-2 CONCERNING FLIGHTS OVER RESTRICTED MILITARY AREAS. DGCA REITERATED NO RPT NO CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT WOULD EVER BE FIRED ON AND THAT THIS WAS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD BY SAUDI MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OFFICIALS.

2. DGCA HAS ISSUED AS RESULT OF OUR APPROACH A NEW NOTAM AS FOLLOWS: A119/73. (DOMESTIC CIRCULAR NR 082. 26 MARCH.) REF AIP SAUDI ARABIAN RAC 5-2 AND FAL 1-1, 1-2. ANY AIRCRAFT FLYING OVER DANGER, RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED AREAS WILL BE SUBJECT TO BEING FIRED ON. STOP. AIRCRAFT FLYING OVER SAUDI ARABIAN TERRITORIES WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION OR/ AND FLYING OUTSIDE THE PERMITTED CORRIDORS WILL BE INTERCEPTED AND FORCED TO LAND. END NOTAM.

3. I WENT OVER THE AIRCRAFT CORRIDOR SITUATION IN SAUDI ARABIA WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL. HE EXPLAINED CLEARLY THAT HIS NOTAMS DID NOT APPLY TO AREAS OUTSIDE OF SAUDI JURISDICTION. HE WAS QUITE AWARE OF THE NEED FOR EL- AL TO FLY DOWN THE MIDDLE OF THE RED SEA AND NOTED THAT AIR CORRIDORS BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT WERE MONITORED FOR TRAFFIC BY AIR CONTROLLERS WHO WOULD NOT ACKNOWLEDGE EL AL NOTIFICATIONS OR FLIGHT PLANS WHICH ARE COMMONLY BROADCAST BY ISRAELI PILOTS AND HEARD BY ARAB FLIGHT INFORMATION CENTERS AT JIDDA DN ELSEWHERE. CONTROLLERS USE THIS INFORMATION TO MAINTAIN A PROPER DISTANCE FOR OTHER AIRCRAFT FLYING IN EAST- WEST AND NORTH- SOUTH CORRIDORS. NOTAMS PUBLISHED BY
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PAGE 03 STATE 055518

SAUDI ARABIA REFERS ONLY TO AIRWAYS THAT ARE PUBLISHED AND RECOGNIZED AND WHICH SERVICE SAUDI ARABIAN TERRITORY. SINCE THERE ARE NO PUBLISHED AIRWAYS BETWEEN JIDDA AND EILATH, FOR EXAMPLE, SUCH NOTAMS HE ASSURED ME DO NOT APPLY TO

AIRCRAFT FLYING OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS. THEREFORE, SO LONG AS ISRAELI AIRCRAFT DO NOT OVERFLY SAUDI TERRITORY, JIDDA FIR WILL IGNORE THE FACT THAT THEY ARE OUTSIDE DESIGNATED CORRIDORS. FYI ONLY: DGCA EXPRESSED IRRITATION WITH CHOICE OF WORDING BY HIS OWN EXPERTS IN ORIGINAL NOTAM AND SPECIFICALLY DENIED THAT IT WAS EVER AIMED AT NORTH- SOUTH FLIGHTS OF EL AL. END FYI.

4. COMMENT: IT SEEMS APPARENT THAT NERVOUSNESS OF SAUDIS REGARDING SENSITIVE SOUTHERN BORDER WAS PRIME REASON BOTH FOR FIRST AND SECOND REPETITION OF NOTAM. THACHER UNQUOTE ROGERS

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